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I SOON SHALL KNOW.

JULIA H. MAY.

Sky, soft sky!
To thee I turn mine eye,
And read, the stars between,
One word of what thy glories mean
And then, though much I need,
No more can read,

Wind, sweet wind!
Thy voice to-day is kind!
Thou whisperest in mine ear
Words that I just begin to hear;
Thou goest from east to west—
I lose the rest.

Earth, glad earth!
To thee I owe my birth;
In thy warm lap I sit,
Thy tender arms around me knit;
I question. Thou dost say
Now yea, now nay.

Soul, my soul!
Thou canst not know the whole;
The sky can know its star,
The breeze its perfume from afar.
The earth reveal to thee
One mystery.

But soul, my soul!
Thou soon shalt know the whole;
When earth and wind and sky
Have vanished, thy enraptured eye
Shall read the book of fate;
Then wait, oh wait.

—*Boston Journal.*

THE ITALIAN PEACE SOCIETIES.

The first of the numerous Italian societies for arbitration and peace, which have sprung into existence during the last four years, was founded at Milan; and from the first day of its existence it has won the support of the most distinguished citizens of the Lombard capital. On its council are members of Parliament, like Mazzoleni, a jurist, and Maffi, a working printer; men of letters and patriots, like Vigano, Moneta and Siccaldi, and the society has become a centre for propagating the cause of international fraternity through that part of the Peninsula. It has just taken an important step towards a settlement of the dispute between Italy and the United States of America respecting the novel and complex question which has arisen out of the lynching of Italians at New Orleans. The Council has set forth the case in a well-drawn statement, couched in terms of perfect moderation and friendliness towards the States. It points out that, without a revision of the Constitution, it would be impossible to secure better treatment for foreign settlers than for American citizens, so that reciprocity of rights between the two nations would not meet the difficulty. On the other hand, diplomatic action would not touch the cause of the difference which has arisen; nor would compensation to the families of the murdered men settle the question of international duty and right. The Milan Society therefore proposes that the whole case be referred by the two Governments to the arbitration of the "Institute of International Law" at Ghent. This is a well-known body, consisting of the most distinguished jurists of Europe;

and one of its objects, as stated in its Statutes, is "to pronounce when needed judicial decisions on doubtful or controversial cases." We understand that on previous occasions the services of the Institute have been resorted to with advantage, while it occupies the highest place in the esteem of the juridical world. The proposal, therefore, seems to be an excellent one, and the Council of the Institute would be certain to select members from among its body specially fitted to judge of the questions at issue. This would be far better than the plan hitherto followed of asking Popes, Emperors and Kings to arbitrate—for these necessarily choose assessors recommended to them by their Ministers; the latter being by no means certain to make an impartial nomination. I heartily trust that the Governments at Rome and Washington may accept this excellent suggestion—the best course, probably, that can be adopted until we have the Permanent International High Court constituted by the joint action of all the Powers.—*London Echo.*

PROPAGATING PEACE.

It was wisely said by Dr. Mackennel, a leading Congregational minister, in his address at the recent annual meeting of the London Peace Society, that we must not expect that the blessing of Peace will be given incidentally with other advantages, without being directly worked for. It was not so promised; and men have been finding out since the Great Exhibition of 1851, which it was expected would inaugurate an era of Peace between nations, that Christ did not say "Blessed are ye artists, blessed are ye laborers or inventors," but "Blessed are ye peace-makers."

Long ago it was foretold that "the work of righteousness would be peace, and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever,"—and hence we see that those who are striving to promote righteousness in the earth, whether by the putting down of the traffic in opium, or drink, or slaves, or in other ways—may all have their share in the blessing pronounced on the peace-makers.—*Messiah's Kingdom.*

BOSTON SENDS RUM TO AFRICA.

A ship laden with \$60,000 worth of New England rum left Boston, July 15, for the usual destination for such cargoes—the dark continent. From July 1, 1890, to the corresponding date in 1891, the exports of this sort from Boston to ports in Africa were 1,018,591 gallons valued at \$1,223,889. During the past year this trade has almost doubled in quantity and value. The number of gallons exported in the twelve months ending July 1, 1890, was 548,356, as against 1,018,591 the year just ended, and the value was only \$656,216 as against \$1,223,889 in the year just past.—*Boston Journal.*

[Let us have a law levying export duties on rum for Africa. Let us join other civilized nations in prohibiting it.—ED.]

Upwards of three hundred members of the Italian Parliament have joined the general Committee for convening the Inter-Parliamentary Peace Conference, which is to meet at Rome in connection with the Universal Peace Congress.